

CLAIMS

1. A facility searching device comprising:
 - a database related to map information;
 - 5 a database, related to various kinds of facilities, that includes positional information for the facilities;
 - a display means for displaying a map for a predetermined area, based on the map information;
 - a pointing device for inputting a position in a
 - 10 displayed map;
 - a voice input means for implementing voice input of the instruction related to a search for the facilities; and
 - a search means for, in response to the input of
 - 15 the position and the instruction, implementing a search related to the facilities, based on the inputted position and the instruction.
2. The facility searching device according to
- 20 claim 1, further comprising a current position acquisition means for acquiring a current position of the facility searching device and a determination means for determining whether or not the instruction input has been implemented without being accompanied by the
- 25 position input, wherein, in the case where the determination means positively determines, the search means implements based on the instruction a search related to the facilities, with respect to a current position.

3. The facility searching device according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising a determination means for determining whether or not, as the position input, only one position has been inputted along with the instruction input, wherein, in the case where the determination means positively determines, the search means implements based on the instruction a search related to the facilities, with respect to the one position.

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4. The facility searching device according to any one of claims 1 to 3, further comprising a determination means for determining whether or not, as the position input, a plurality of positions that indicates a specific road in the map has been inputted along with the instruction input, wherein, in the case where the determination means positively determines, the search means implements based on the instruction a search related to the facilities, with regard to facilities that exist along the specific road or within a predetermined distance from the specific road.

5. The facility searching device according to claim 4, wherein the determination means makes a positive determination when the plurality of positions exists within a predetermined distance from the specific road and the position, among the positions, that is inputted last exists on the specific road.

30 6. The facility searching device according to any

one of claims 1 to 5, further comprising a determination means for determining whether or not, as the position input, a plurality of positions that indicates a specific area in the map has been inputted along with the instruction input, wherein, in the case where the determination means positively determines, the search means implements based on the instruction a search related to the facilities, with regard to facilities included in the specific area.

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7. The facility searching device according to any one of claims 1 to 6, further comprising a determination means for determining whether or not, a plurality of positions that, as the position input, is inputted along with the instruction input indicates neither any road nor any area in the map, wherein, in the case where the determination means positively determines, the search means implements based on the instruction a search related to the facilities, with respect to the middle position between the firstly inputted position and the lastly inputted position among the plurality of positions.

8. The facility searching device according to any one of claims 4 to 7, wherein input of the plurality of positions is implemented through operation in which, by means of the pointing device, the pointing position is moved through pointing or dragging on the map.

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9. The facility searching device according to any

one of claims 1 to 8, further comprising a determination means for determining whether or not, as the position input, input has been implemented, along with the instruction input, in which a specific road in the map is traced or two or more roads that intersect each other or that are connected with each other are traced by means of the pointing device, wherein, in the case where the determination means positively determines, the search means implements based on the instruction a search related to the facilities, with regard to facilities that exist along the specific road or the two or more roads, or that exist within a predetermined distance from the specific road or each of the two or more roads.

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10. The facility searching device according to claim 9, wherein, a facility search for facilities that exist along the specific road or within the predetermined distance from the specific road is implemented over a range from the beginning position to the final position of the input that is implemented in a tracing manner.

11. The facility searching device according to any one of claims 1 to 10, further comprising an input determination means for determining whether or not, as the position input, input of only two positions, through a first point operation and a second point operation carried out within a predetermined time period after the first point operation, has been implemented along with

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the instruction input.

12. The facility searching device according to claim 11, further comprising a determination means for
5 determining whether or not the two positions are located on a same road, when the input determination means determines that the input for only the two positions has been implemented along with the instruction input, wherein, in the case where the determination means
10 positively determines, the search means implements based on the instruction a search related to the facilities, with regard to facilities that exist along the specific road or within a predetermined distance from the specific road.

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13. The facility searching device according to claim 12, wherein, a facility search for facilities that exist along the specific road or within the predetermined distance from the specific road is
20 implemented over a range between the two positions.

14. The facility searching device according to any one of claims 11 to 13, further comprising, a determination means for determining whether or not the
25 two positions are located on a same road, when the input determination means determines that the input for only the two positions has been implemented along with the instruction input, wherein, in the case where the determination means negatively determines, the search
30 means implements based on the instruction a search

related to the facilities, with respect to the middle position between the two positions.

15. The facility searching device according to any
5 one of claims 1 to 14, further comprising, a determination means for determining whether or not, as the position input, input of three or more positions, through three or more point operation events, has been consecutively implemented without being interrupted for
10 more than a predetermined duration, along with the instruction input, wherein, in the case where the determination means positively determines, the search means implements based on the instruction a search related to the facilities, with regard to facilities
15 that exist within a triangular or a polygonal area having as the vertexes the three or more positions.

16. The facility searching device according to any one of claims 1 to 15, wherein the voice input means
20 accepts input of the instruction related to a search for the facilities, in response to input of a position on the displayed map.

17. The facility searching device according to
25 claims 2, 3, 7 or 14, wherein the search implemented with respect to a position lists and displays facilities within a predetermined distance from the position, in order of increasing distance from the position.

30 18. The facility searching device according to any

one of claims 1 to 17, wherein the instruction related to a search for the facilities includes at least one of the instruction of a genre name as a search subject, the instruction of a proper name as a search subject, and
5 the instruction of the usage purpose, of a facility, as a search subject.

19. The facility searching device according to claim 4, 5, 9 or 12, wherein, a facility search for
10 facilities that exist along the specific road or within the predetermined distance from the specific road is implemented within the range of the specific road displayed by the display means.

15 20. A navigation device that is provided with the facility searching device according to any one of claims 1 to 19 and shares the database related to map information with the facility searching device.

20 21. A program that makes a computer function as a means for configuring the facility searching device according to any one of claims 1 to 19.

22. A facility searching method comprising:
25 a display step, by a computer, of displaying a map for a predetermined area, based on a database related to map information;

a position input step, by the computer, of receiving input of a position in the displayed map, by
30 means of a pointing device;

an instruction input step, by the computer, of receiving voice input for the instruction related to a search for facilities; and

5 a search step, by the computer, of, based on the database related to map information, a database, related to various kinds of facilities, that includes positional information of the facilities, and the inputted position and the instruction, implementing a search related to the facilities.